



CITY OF TUCSON



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NEWS RELEASE

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OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING 2000 BLOCK OF WEST SADDLE HILLS DRIVE

On April 12, 2012 at approximately 12:28 p.m., the Tucson Police Department received a 911 call from a female caller who requested a welfare check of her family members. She reported she had been locked out of her home and upon attempting to gain entry, she heard a single gunshot from within the residence. The woman believed that her 46-year-old son had shot himself or his wife. Officers from Operations Division West responded to assist and arrived within six minutes of the initial call. The reporting party was evacuated to safety, and officers worked to contain the immediate area. As officers were establishing a perimeter, they began receiving gunfire from within the residence. In excess of 25 shots were fired at the officers, pinning at least one of them down with little to no protective cover.

The incident prompted a lock-down of nearby Brichta Elementary School, as well as the surrounding neighborhood. Additional officers, as well as SWAT and the Hostage Negotiation Unit, were called to assist. Information that was gathered up to that point indicated the male was possibly keeping his wife against her will. Furthermore, it was unclear whether their two children were inside, as well. Officers later confirmed the children were not in the residence, however, the suspect's wife was still thought to be in the home and possibly injured. Hostage Negotiators continuously attempted to establish a productive dialogue with the suspect, but their efforts proved unsuccessful, as he was unwilling to participate. Officers determined a tactical intervention to rescue the female hostage, had the potential to place her in greater danger.

At approximately 5:30 p.m, after five hours of futile efforts to get the man to cooperate and surrender peacefully, the suspect presented himself near a sliding glass door, and a SWAT officer utilized deadly force against him. A crisis entry team, comprised of SWAT officers, entered the home and discovered the 34-year-old woman, later identified as **Samantha Davis**, deceased in the main level den area of the home. The suspect, **Eric Lee Davis**, was found deceased in a bedroom on the second floor of the home.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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Detectives from the Night Detective Unit, the Homicide Unit, and the Office of Internal Affairs responded to the scene to continue the investigation. Detectives collected and examined evidence from the scene and interviewed witnesses, as well as involved officers. The Homicide Unit will continue the criminal investigation. The Office of Internal Affairs will conduct a separate and parallel administrative investigation, examining the actions of department personnel in response to this incident. This type of post-shooting administrative review is standard protocol when an officer discharges their weapon in the line of duty, and is utilized to determine whether department policies were followed, and if current training, equipment, supervision, and policies are adequate and appropriate.

The SWAT officer is Detective and Acting Sergeant, Benjamin Frie, a 10-year veteran of the Tucson Police Department and member of the SWAT team for the past four years.

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